

Office of Communications

300 Park Avenue, Suite 303 East Falls Church, VA 22046 www.fallschurchva.gov/News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

MEDIA CONTACTS

Susan Finarelli or Amy Betor publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov 703-248-5003

Updates on City of Falls Church Boundary Adjustment, Sale of the Water Utility

In April, the City of Falls Church and Fairfax County jointly filed a voluntary boundary adjustment agreement, as part of the sale of the water utility, with the Virginia Commission on Local Government (CLG). It is standard procedure and required by Virginia law that localities have boundary adjustments reviewed by the CLG. The review schedule has been set as follows:

July 8, 2013

- 10:30 a.m. CLG members tour the areas included in the boundary adjustment
- 2 p.m. CLG hears oral presentations from City and County attorneys and staff in support of the boundary adjustment (City Hall, 300 Park Ave., Falls Church)
- 7 p.m. Public hearing with CLG (City Hall, 300 Park Ave., Falls Church)

July 9, 2013

- 9 a.m. CLG holds closed meeting (City Hall, 300 Park Ave., Falls Church)
- 10 a.m. CLG holds regular meeting (City Hall, 300 Park Ave., Falls Church)

September 2013 (exact date to be determined)

 CLG scheduled to issue report and recommendation regarding the voluntary boundary adjustment

After CLG provides its recommendation regarding the boundary adjustment, the City and County will consider adoption of parallel ordinances providing for the boundary adjustment. Assuming these ordinances are adopted, the City and County will file a petition in circuit court requesting the appointment of a three-judge special court to review the boundary adjustment. The special court must give final approval. Assuming the November referendum passes in the City, it is anticipated that the special court will consider this matter for final approval in late 2013 or early 2014.

Earlier, from April 23, 2013 News Release:

City of Falls Church to File Boundary Adjustment Agreement for Review by Virginia Commission on Local Government

City Follows Standard Procedure as Dictated by Virginia State Code

At its April 22 meeting, the Falls Church City Council passed a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to file the proposed voluntary boundary adjustment, as part of the sale of the water utility, for review and recommendation by the Virginia Commission on Local Government (CLG). The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will also consider a resolution later this month. After the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopts a resolution, the proposed agreement will be filed jointly with Fairfax County.

It is standard procedure and required by Virginia law that localities have boundary adjustments reviewed by the CLG. The review process includes a hearing before the commission followed by their written recommendation. The City and the County aim to set a July hearing with the CLG in order to receive their recommendation by September, prior to the City's November referendum on the sale of the water utility.

About the Virginia Commission on Local Government (CLG)

The CLG was created as a permanent body by Chapter 85 of the Acts of Assembly of 1979 and formally began operation in January 1980. In July 2003 the Commission was merged with the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

The CLG is charged with reviewing petitions and proposals for a variety of actions involving boundary changes and other governmental transitions. These include annexation, the immunization of county areas from city-initiated annexation and from city incorporation, the transition of towns and counties to city status, the transition of cities to town status, and consolidations proposing the creation of new cities.

More information about the CLG can be found at www.dhcd.virginia.gov/index.php/commission-on-local-government/about-the-commission.html.

Related Links

- Council Resolution, approved on April 22: http://bit.ly/11xm1GK
- Draft Boundary Adjustment Agreement: http://bit.ly/10qKoGB